- 1. A nonwoven web comprising a plurality of apertures each having a hole size greater than 2 mm², and a hole aspect ratio less than 6, said nonwoven web having an open area greater than 15% and being capable of at least 70% extension in the cross machine direction at a loading of 10 g/cm.
- 2. The nonwoven web of Claim 1, wherein said nonwoven web has a basis weight between 15 and 70 gsm.
- 3. The nonwoven web of Claim 1, wherein said nonwoven web has a basis weight between 40 and 50 gsm.
- 4. The nonwoven web of Claim 1 wherein said nonwoven web is a web selected from the group consisting of a bonded carded web of fibers, a web of spunbonded fibers, a web of meltblown fibers, and a multilayer material including at least one of said webs.
- The nonwoven web of Claim 4 wherein said web of meltblown fibers includes meltblown microfibers.
- 6. The nonwoven web of Claim 1, wherein said nonwoven web is a topsheet on a disposable absorbent article.
- A nonwoven web comprising a plurality of apertures formed by application of a tensioning force, said apertures coincident with a plurality of weakened, melt-stabilized locations, said apertures having a circumferential edge, a portion of said circumferential edge being defined by a remnant of said melt-stabilized locations, said nonwoven web capable of extension in the cross machine direction of at least 70% at a loading of 10 g/cm.
- 8. The nonwoven web of Claim 7, wherein said nonwoven web comprises an open area greater than 15% and an average aperture size greater than 2.0mm².
- 9. The nonwoven web of Claim 7, wherein said nonwoven web has a basis weight between 15 and 60 gsm.
- 10. The nonwoven web of Claim 7, wherein said nonwoven web is a topsheet on a disposable absorbent article.
- 11. A method for making a highly extensible apertured nonwoven web comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a nonwoven web having a length measured in a machine direction and a first width measured in a cross machine direction;
- weakening said nonwoven web at a plurality of locations to create a plurality of weakened, melt-stabilized locations;
- c) applying a first tensioning force to said nonwoven web to cause said nonwoven web to rupture at said plurality of weakened, melt-stabilized locations creating a plurality of apertures in said nonwoven web coincident with said plurality of weakened, melt-stabilized locations, said first tensioning force causing said nonwoven web to have a second width;
- incrementally stretching said nonwoven web to locally extend portions of said nonwoven web in a direction substantially parallel to said cross machine direction to a third width that is greater than the second width;
- applying tension to said nonwoven web in the machine direction such that said nowoven web has a width less than said -third width.
- 12. The method of Claim 11 wherein said nonwoven web is a web having a peak CD extensibility of at least 150%, and being selected from the group consisting of a bonded carded web of fibers, a web of spunbonded fibers, a web of meltblown fibers, and a multilayer material including at least one of said webs.
- 13. The method of Claim 12 wherein said meltblown web includes meltblown microfibers.
- 14. The method of Claim 11 wherein said nonwoven web comprises an elastic nonwoven web.
- 15. The method of Claim 11 wherein said nonwoven web comprises a nonelastic nonwoven web.
- 16. The method of Claim 11 wherein said second tensioning step causes said nonwoven web to exhibit extension in the cross machine direction of at least 70% at 10g/cm loading.
- 17. A method for making a highly extensible apertured nonwoven web comprising the steps of:
 - a) providing an apertured nonwoven web having a length measured in a machine direction and a first width measured in a cross machine direction;
 - incrementally stretching said nonwoven web to locally extend portions of said nonwoven
 web in a direction substantially parallel to said cross machine direction to a second width
 that is greater than the first width;
 - e) applying tension to said nonwoven web in the machine direction such that said nowoven web has a width less than said second width.

- 18. The method of Claim 17 wherein said nonwoven web is a web having a peak CD extensibility of at least 150%, and being selected from the group consisting of a bonded carded web of fibers, a web of spunbonded fibers, a web of meltblown fibers, and a multilayer material including at least one of said webs.
- 19. The method of Claim 17 wherein said nonwoven web is a composite material comprising a mixture of fibers and one or more other materials selected from the group consisting of wood pulp, staple fibers, particulates and superabsorbent materials.
- 20. The method of Claim 17 wherein said tensioning step causes said nonwoven web to exhibit extension in the cross machine direction of at least 70% at 10g/cm loading.